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PAGE 01 STATE 247193

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TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, US, IN

SUBJECT: INDO-U.S. JOINT COMMISSION - NEXT STEPS

1. AS RESULT OF OCTOBER 6-7 JOINT COMMISSION MEETING, COMPREHENSIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS HAS BEEN MAPPED OUT FOR NEXT SIX MONTHS. FOLLOWING IS OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT LIES AHEAD AND OF WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IN WAY OF PREPARATIONS. DELHI'S COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME.

2. ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISSION - HERE WE HAVE PERHAPS THE MOST AMBITIOUS SCHEDULE, WITH TAX TALKS IN WASHINGTON OCTOBER 16-17, A MEETING OF THE JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL IN DELHI FEBRUARY 2-4, 1975, AND BACK-TO-BACK MEETINGS OF THE AGRICULTURE INPUTS WORKING GROUP AND ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 247193

SUBCOMMISSION IN DELHI IN EARLY MARCH.

A) JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL - THIS IS LARGELY A PRIVATE SECTOR SHOW, ALTHOUGH WE WILL REMAIN INVOLVED ON THE SIDELINES. OAKLEY JOHNSON OF THE U.S. CHAMBER HAS ADVISED THAT INVITATIONS ARE GOING OUT THIS WEEK TO 80 POTENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE JBC. HE HOPES TO RECRUIT 30 PEOPLE WHO ARE PREPARED BOTH TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL AND GO TO INDIA IN FEBRUARY FOR THE FIRST MEETING. M.G. KAUL HAD USEFUL MEETING WITH

ORVILLE FREEMAN AND CHAMBER OFFICIALS OCTOBER 7, DURING WHICH THEY DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IN PREPARATION FOR DELHI MEETING. THEY ALSO EXCHANGED IDEAS ON THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL AND THE CONTRIBUTION IT COULD LOGICALLY MAKE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDO-U.S. COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. AGENDA WAS DISCUSSED ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS; CHAMBER AND FICCI WILL HAVE TO FIRM THIS UP DIRECTLY AT LATER DATE. DEPARTMENT EXPECTS TO BE INFORMALLY CONSULTED ON AGENDA, AND WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS FROM EMBASSY.

B) AGRICULTURE INPUTS WORKING GROUP - THE INDIANS SEEMED TO BE ESPECIALLY PLEASED ABOUT THIS GROUP AND THE POTENTIAL IT OFFERS IN FURTHERING COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE. M.G. KAUL DESCRIBED IT AS "POTENTIALLY ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL DEVELOPMENTS IN JOINT COMMISSION'S EFFORTS". WE ARE STUDYING WAYS IN WHICH RECOMMENDATIONS OF GROUP (SEE STATE 237204) CAN BE IMPLEMENTED, AND SOLICIT EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON THIS. WE HOPE THAT CONCRETE PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED BEFORE MARCH SUBCOMMISSION MEETING.

C) WORKING GROUP ON INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION - BEFORE THE SUBCOMMISSION MEETS IN MARCH, WE OBVIOUSLY NEED TO HAVE A FIRMER GRASP OF WHAT THIS GROUP WOULD DO AND HOW IT WOULD WORK IF WE ARE TO GO FORWARD WITH IDEA. ESSENTIALLY, WE PROPOSED IT IN RESPONSE TO CONTINUING INDIAN REQUESTS FOR COOPERATION ON THIRD COUNTRY JOINT VENTURES. THE WORKING GROUP IS SEEN AS THE EQUIVALENT OF THE AGRICULTURE INPUTS WORKING GROUP, IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. WE WOULD LIKE SOME JOINT COMMISSION ENTITY TO FOCUS ON THIS KIND OF COOPERATION. THE JBC HAS YET TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 247193

PROVE ITSELF AND IN ANY CASE THE U.S. CHAMBER HAS MADE IT PLAIN IT LACKS THE STAFF AND RESOURCES TO IDENTIFY AND PUBLICIZE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION. OPIC IS WILLING TO DO SO, AND WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER.

D) OTHER - THERE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN DELHI CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM EQUIVALENT TO THAT WHICH HAS BEEN SET UP

IN WASHINGTON AND WHICH THE INDIAN EMBASSY HAS COME TO ACCEPT AS A CHANNEL FOR DOING BUSINESS. THIS WAS DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH DURING OCTOBER 6 PLENARY SESSION AND M.G. KAUL SAID GOI WOULD CONSIDER ANY PROPOSALS FOR FORMAL OR INFORMAL ARRANGEMENTS WE WOULD CARE TO OFFER. WHAT WE WOULD LIKE IS THE SORT OF ROUTINE CONSULTATION IN ADVANCE THAT THE INDIANS HAVE COME TO EXPECT IN WASHINGTON TO BECOME COMMONPLACE IN DELHI AS WELL, WHENEVER INDIANS ARE CONTEMPLATING DECISION AFFECTING U.S. COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. CREATION OF A SPECIAL BUSINESS FACILITATION GROUP IN DELHI

WHICH WOULD BE COMPOSED OF KEY EMBASSY AND GOI OFFICIALS, AND WHICH WOULD FORMALIZE AN OTHERWISE INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM WAS ALSO DISCUSSED DURING THE PLENARY. WE WOULD LIKE EMBASSY TO FOLLOW UP ON ABOVE SUGGESTIONS WITH KAUL AND OTHER GOI OFFICIALS.

3. EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SUBCOMMISSION - FOLLOWING RECENT MEETINGS OF JOINT COMMISSION AND AMERICAN PANEL OF SUBCOMMISSION, AND IN PREPARATION FOR NEXT FULL MEETING OF SUBCOMMISSION IN MAY IN NEW YORK CITY, FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE PROPOSED:

A) JOINT MUSEUM COMMITTEE - CHARLES BLITZER WILL BE CORRESPONDING DIRECTLY WITH KAPILA VATSYAYAN TO PURSUE VARIOUS MATTERS, INCLUDING:

1) ESTABLISHING CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN TWO SIDES OF COMMITTEE IN VIEW OF IMMINENT DEPARTURE OF VATSYAYAN FROM MINISTRY;

2) PLANS FOR FIRST FULL MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE, FOR THE AMERICAN SIDE LAST WEEK IN FEBRUARY SEEMS BEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 247193

AND PERHAPS THE ONLY POSSIBLE TIME FOR THIS MEETING. VATSYAYAN NEEDS TO RESPOND ON THIS DATE. DR. BLITZER AND MRS. VATSYAYAN WILL ALSO CONSULT ON AGENDA PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING.

B) IMPACT EXHIBITIONS - IT IS NOW GENERALLY AGREED THAT INITIATIVE FOR PLANNING INDIAN EXHIBIT WILL REST WITH AMERICAN SIDE. PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM WILL PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE. GOHEEN AND BLITZER WILL REQUEST THAT INDIAN SIDE OF SUBCOMMISSION ASSIST PHILADELPHIA ARRANGE CLEARANCE ON LOANS OF ART OBJECTS FROM INDIAN INSTITUTIONS. PLANS FOR INDIAN EXHIBIT WILL BE MAJOR TOPIC JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN FEBRUARY. RE AMERICAN IMPACT EXHIBITION, WE NEED DETAILED INFORMATION FROM INDIAN SIDE ON NATURE OF EXHIBIT DESIRED. THIS WILL ALSO BE MAJOR TOPIC AT JOINT MUSEUM COMMITTEE

MEETING.

C) BINATIONAL SEMINARS - IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF TWO YEARS LOCAL COSTS FOR SEMINARS WILL BE BORNE BY HOST COUNTRY. THIS WILL BE REVIEWED AT 1977 MEETING OF SUBCOMMISSION.

1) METHODS IN HISTORY SEMINAR - PROBABLE DATE AND LOCATION SEMINAR IS FEBRUARY IN GOA; HOWEVER, BOORSTEIN AND GOPAL NEED TO WORK OUT DETAILS.

2) MUSEUMS AS EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES - BLITZER WILL RE-

QUEST VATSYAYAN TO DETERMINE WHETHER ALTERNATIVE SEMINAR CONCEPT PROPOSED BY AMERICAN PANEL OF JOINT MUSEUM COMMITTEE IS ACCEPTABLE TO INDIAN SIDE, AND TO PROVIDE US WITH LIST OF INDIAN PARTICIPANTS, AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

D) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM? -AMERICAN PANEL DISCUSSION OCTOBER 8 MADE CLEAR THAT IF WE ARE TO EXCHANGE SCHOLARS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 1976-1977, EARLY AGREEMENT WITH INDIANS ON SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE IS IMPERATIVE. THESE INCLUDE A) LEVEL AND DURATION OF EXCHANGES, B) MODALITIES OF SELECTION AND REPLACEMENT, AND C) TYPE AND AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION. FURTHERMORE, NEW QUESTION RAISED BY AMERICAN PANEL: IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 05 STATE 247193

ORDER TO ADD DISTINCTION TO THIS EXCHANGE, AND ADVANCE OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, AWARD MIGHT INCLUDE PROGRAM OF TRAVEL WITHIN HOST COUNTRY. GOHEEN IS SOLICITING PARTHASARATHI'S REACTION TO THIS IDEA.

4. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION - THERE IS VERY LITTLE TIME BEFORE SUBCOMMISSION MEETS DECEMBER 9-11. UNLESS WE MOVE AHEAD IN NEXT FEW WEEKS, SUBCOMMISSION WILL HAVE LITTLE TO TALK ABOUT IN DECEMBER. ESSENTIALLY, WE WANT TO IDENTIFY PROJECTS WHICH OFFER POTENTIAL FOR COLLABORATION IN EACH OF PRIORITY AREAS LISTED IN MINUTES OF S AND T SUBCOMMISSION MEETING IN JANUARY AND LAST WEEK'S JOINT COMMISSION MEETING. SOME AGENCIES HAVE ALREADY SENT PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE TO INDIA TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES; WE HOPE MORE WILL FOLLOW. PROPOSALS SHOULD BE FAR ENOUGH ALONG BY DECEMBER SO THAT SUBCOMMISSION CAN REVIEW, CRITIQUE AND BLESS THEM. THINK JOINT COMMISSION DELIBERATIONS HAVE RESOLVED THE QUESTION OF POLITICAL BACKING AGAINST UNFAIR CRITICISM - ON PAPER AT LEAST.

5. WOULD LIKE YOU TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH DESHPANDE WHO WAS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN JOINT COMMISSION MEETING AND

FOLLOW-UP TALKS WITH U.S. AGENCIES.NAG CHAUDHURI DURING
WEEK-LONG STAY IN WASHINGTON ALSO MET WITH CONCERNED U.S.
AGENCIES. HE STRESSED THAT FUTURE IMPETUS FOR S AND T
COOPERATION UNDER JOINT COMMISSION AEGIS DEPENDS ON RESULTS
OF DECEMBER MEETINGS. INGERSOLL

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